

### **Remarks/Arguments**

Prior to the present amendments, claims 1-6, 13, 15 and 18-41 were pending in this application. Claims 20-41 were withdrawn from consideration for being directed to a non-elected invention; claims 1-6 and 13 were allowed and claims 15, 18 and 19 were rejected. The present amendments concern cancellation of non-elected claims 20-41 and amendment of the dependencies of claims 15 and 18. The amendments are of formal nature and do not add new matter. The amendments and cancellations were made without prejudice or disclaimer. Applicants explicitly reserve the right to pursue any additional subject matter in one or more continuing applications.

### ***Election/Restrictions***

Applicants note and appreciate withdrawal of the earlier restriction among various nucleotide antagonists (i.e., antisense RNA, antisense DNA, and ds RNA), in view of Applicants' arguments. The present Amendment and Response includes cancellation of the non-elected claims.

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112***

Claims 15, 18, and 19 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph as being indefinite due to their dependence on cancelled claim 14. The present amendment of claims 15 and 18 is believed to obviate this rejection, the withdrawal of which is respectfully requested.

***Conclusion***

All claims pending in this application are believed to be in *prima facie* condition for allowance, and an early action to that effect is respectfully solicited.

Please charge any additional fees, including any fees for additional extension of time, or credit overpayment to **Deposit Account No. 50-2387**, referencing Attorney Docket No. **MWB-0004 (24117.005)**.

Respectfully submitted.

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By: Electronic Signature: /GINGER.R. DREGER/  
Registration No. 33,055

ARNOLD & PORTER LLP  
555 Twelfth Street, NW  
Washington, D.C. 20004-1206  
Telephone: +1 202.942.5000  
Facsimile: +1 202.942.5999